

REMARKS

In an Office Action dated October 5, 2004, the Examiner indicates that pending claims 1, 3, 12 and 14 are rejected as being anticipated over prior art and claims 2, 4-11, 13 and 15-22 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but otherwise contain allowable subject matter.

More specifically, in the present office action, claims 1, 3, 12 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,421,038 to Lee (hereinafter "Lee").

In response, Applicants herein cancel rejected claims 1, 3, 12 and 14. Accordingly, the outstanding rejection is rendered moot; reconsideration and withdrawal thereof is respectfully requested.

Applicants reserve the right to pursue the cancelled claims in an additional application(s) without prejudice in respect of the present claim amendment or otherwise.

As mentioned, the Examiner objects to claims 2, 4-11, 13 and 15-22 but states that these claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Herein, Applicants amend claims 2, 4-11, 13, and 15-22 to place the claims in condition for allowance.

Particularly, claims 2, 4, 6, and 7 are each rewritten in independent form by encompassing all of the limitations of base claim 1. Accordingly, claims 2, 4 and 6-7, as amended, are novel and non-obvious over the cited references and are thus allowable. Dependent claims 5 and 8-11 variously depend from allowable claims 4 and 7 and are thus correspondingly allowable. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the objections of claims 2 and 4-11 is respectfully requested.

Further, claims 13, 15, 17, and 18 are each rewritten herein in independent form as including all of the limitations of claim 12. Accordingly, claims 13, 15 and 17-18 as amended are novel and non-obvious over the cited reference and are thus allowable. Dependent claims 16 and 19-22 variously depend from allowable claims 15 and 18 and


are thus correspondingly allowable. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the objections of claims 13 and 15-22 is respectfully requested.

All of the objections and rejections are herein overcome. No new matter is added by way of the present Amendments and Remarks as support is found throughout the originally filed specification, claims and drawings. The application is now allowable to Applicants. Prompt issuance of Notice of Allowance is requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's attorney at the below-listed phone number regarding this Response or otherwise concerning the present application.

If there are any charges due with respect to this Amendment or otherwise, please charge them to Deposit Account No. 06-1130 maintained by Applicant's attorneys.

Respectfully submitted,
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